of Gujarat and other affected States have been advised to issue suitable instructions to all concerned to respond' immediately to complaints of injustice/harassment against the minorities and to initiate prompt and effective action with a view to create a congenial climate and redress their grievances.

Terrorism in J&K

388. SHRIMATI VEENAVERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS e pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved a two pronged strategy to deal with terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details including estimated cost thereof and the steps taken and being taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) With a view to tackling the militancy problem snonorcd from across the border in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government have adopted multi-pronged approach which includes inter-alia strengthening the border management, neutralishing plans of militants by proactive action against them in hinterland, gearmingup intelligence machinery, galvanising development programmes and deepening the democratic process etc. The focus is on curbing infiltration; countering militancy in the hinterland; protection of minorities; improving of technological components of Counter- insurgency Operations, gadgetry and equipment for the security forces etc. The cost of the implementation of these measures to counter militancy in Jammu and Kashmir is estimated at Rs. 560.47 crores, spread over three years.

Attacks on Christian Nuns

389. SHRI A. VIJAY RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details regarding the attacks and rapes against Christian Nuns in 1998;

(b) the steps taken by Government to avoid attacks on the Christian Nuns in our country; and

(c) whether Government propose to change the existing criminal laws to ensure strict action against the accused for rapes?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) As per the available information, three incidents of attack on Christian Nuns, one each from the States of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have been reported.

(b) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation and detection of crimes as well as the prevention of crimes are primarily the responsibility of the State Government.

After the recent incidents of attack on minorities, the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States have been advised to issue suitable instructions to the district authorities concerned to respond immediately to the complaints of atrocities to harassment of the minorities and initiate prompt and effective action to identify and'punish the guilty persons. The Government is clear that acts of violence against the minority communities, whenever and whatever form they occur, must be dealt with sternly and exemplary punishment awarded to the perpetrators.

(c) The State Governments have been requested for the views on strengthening of legal provisions relating to rape. The matter has also been considered at the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 27th November, 1998.

National Register for Citizens

390. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are to open and maintain a National Register containing details of Indian citizens;

(b) whether there is also a proposal to maintain an All India Register which will contain names and other particulars of non-Indian persons living in India; and

(c) by when the work on these two Registers is likely to commence and the estimated time frame for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for compulsory registration of all citizens/ non-citizens and to issue Identity Cards to all citizens of 14 years and above. The details in this regard are being worked out.

In addition persons below 14 years are proposed to be compulsorily registered under the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969.

Fencing on the Indo-Bangladesh Border

391. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision was taken by Government for border fencing on the Indo-Bangladesh border in Tripura in order to prevent infiltration of foreign nationals and to prevent free movement of the extremists along the international border;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Noj Sir.

(b), and (c) Do not arise.

Additional Forces for Tripura

392. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Tripura has requested Government for deployment of additional forces in the State in view of the activities of the extremist groups;

(b) if so, whether Government are sending additional forces to the State; and

(c) the time frame by when the additional forces will reach the State?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The levels of deployment of security forces in various parts of the country, infer *alia,* depend upon the overall security scenario as well as the availability of the forces. The situation is kept under constant review. Security forces have been deployed in Tripura to maintain public order and curb insurgency. The request of the State Government for additional forces has been noted.

Naxalitc activities in certain States

393. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMA-CHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Naxalite activities are going on at high pitch in Andhra Pradesh and adjacent States;

(b) whether a proposal to utilise services of unmanned aircraft to contain the naxalite menace has been thought of in the joint meeting of the Chief Minister's of the concerned States; and

(c) if so, the present stage of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) As per available reports, the Left Wing extremist violence in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa has shown a decline in 1998 (upto October, 1998) as compared to the corresponding period of 1997. However, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have witnessed some increase this year (upto October 1998) as compared to the corresponding period of 1997.

(b) Yes, Sir.